

SA1122771

James Hadley, Royal Worcester
– Rare Water Carrier Figurine,
1887

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1122771

Date of manufacture: 1880

Dimensions

Height = 45 cm (17.7")

Description

A rare and exceptional antique porcelain figurine of a water carrier, crafted by James Hadley for Royal Worcester in 1887. This finely detailed piece depicts a barefoot man wearing rustic, fringed robes, holding a bamboo staff in one hand. He stands beside a brickwork pillar supporting a large water vessel. The figure's strong, muscular arms are masterfully sculpted, emphasizing Hadley's attention to anatomical precision. This ivory-colored figurine is remarkable in size (45 cm), significantly larger than similar figures typically found. It bears the Royal Worcester impressed and puce printed factory mark, numbered 1126, with pattern ? 41794, and is signed by James Hadley on the side—adding to its appeal and collectability. James Hadley was one of the most renowned modelers associated with the Royal Worcester factory in the 19th century. Beginning his career in the 1850s, he became chief modeler by the late 19th century, specializing in exquisitely crafted figurines depicting romantic and pastoral themes. His subjects often included children, peasants, and allegorical figures, reflecting the artistic trends of the era. Although Hadley left Worcester in 1875 to establish h...

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